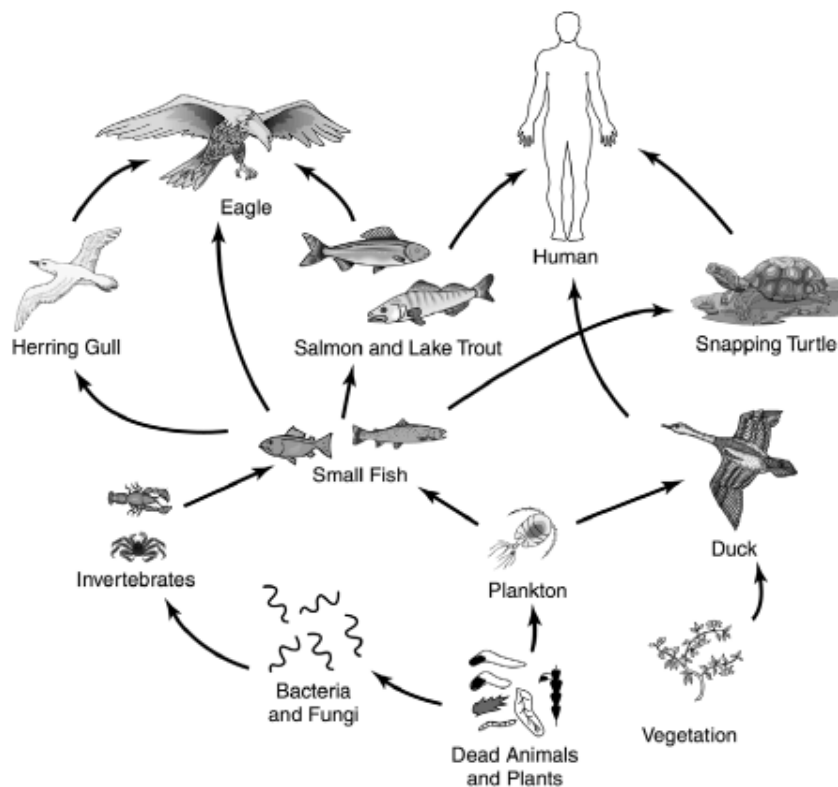




**Science Grade 8  
Scoring Guide for  
Released Item #13  
Great Lakes Ecosystem  
Fall 2006**



The picture below shows one possible food web for a Great Lakes ecosystem. Based on your understanding of ecosystems' interactions, answer the following question.



**ANSWER THE FOLLOWING CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ITEM IN YOUR ANSWER DOCUMENT.**

**13 Constructed Response  
(3 points)**

Suppose that human beings were removed entirely from the Great Lakes ecosystems.

- Identify **one** organism in the food web that this would have an immediate effect on.
- Describe the effect.
- Explain how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms.

**NOTHING WRITTEN IN THIS TEST BOOKLET WILL BE SCORED.**

## Science Rubric for Great Lakes Ecosystem

### Sample responses:

1. Organism in the food web on which there would be an immediate effect:
  - a) Ducks
  - b) Snapping Turtle
  - c) Salmon/Lake Trout
2. Description of effect:
  - a) Duck population would increase
  - b) Snapping Turtle population would increase
  - c) Salmon/Lake Trout population would increase
3. Effect on other organisms or groups of organisms:
  - a) Ducks: reduction in small fish, plankton and/or vegetation
  - b) Snapping Turtles: reduction in small fish and/or an increase in food for eagles
  - c) Salmon/Lake Trout: reduction in small fish and/or an increase in food for eagles

### Scoring Guide:

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>3 points</b> | The student correctly identifies an organism that will be <b>IMMEDIATELY</b> affected by the removal of humans from the food chain, correctly describes the effect and explains how this will affect another organism or group of organisms.   |
| <b>2 points</b> | <p>The student correctly identifies an organism that will be <b>IMMEDIATELY</b> affected by the removal of humans from the food chain and correctly describes either the effect or explains how this will affect another organism or group of organisms.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>The student correctly states the effect and explains how this will affect another organism or group of organisms.</p> |
| <b>1 point</b>  | <p>The student correctly identifies an organism that will be <b>IMMEDIATELY</b> affected by the removal of humans.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>The student misidentifies the organism that will be <b>IMMEDIATELY</b> affected and correctly describes the effect.</p>   |
| <b>0 points</b> | The student fails to understand the task.  |

**Anchor Paper 1 – Score Point 3**

3 points

If humans were removed from the Great Lakes ecosystem, it would mostly effect the Salmon and lake trout, because they would become over populated. This would also mean that there would be a dramatic decrease in the amount of small fish because there won't be enough to feed all of the salmon and lake trout. And the eagle couldn't eat all of them.

3

**Anchor Paper 1  
Score Point 3**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*it would mostly effect the Salmon and lake trout*). Acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon/Lake Trout, so this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*they would become over populated*), referring to an increase in salmon/lake trout. "Increase in ducks", "increase in snapping turtles, or "increase in salmon/lake trout" would all be acceptable responses, so this response receives credit. The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*dramatic decrease in the amount of small fish*). Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms would be either an increase or a reduction in population or food. As there could be a decrease in small fish (because there are more salmon that feed on small fish), this response is correct.

Note: Order is important for the immediate organism (Part 1). The immediate organism must be identified first. It is not acceptable to give credit to a correct immediate organism if it appears later in the response. (Parts 2 and 3 do not need to be in order to receive credit).

## Anchor Paper 2 – Score Point 3

3 points

If all human beings were removed from the Great Lakes ecosystem then one organism that will be immediately affected is the ducks.

The effect will happen like this. There will be more ducks. So there will be less food for small fish which will create less small fish. Then that will create less food for the Herring Gull, the Eagles, and the salmon and lake trout. So there will be an over population of ducks and a low population of mostly everything else.

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### Anchor Paper 2 Score Point 3

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*the ducks*). As acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon/Lake Trout, this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*There will be more ducks*). "Increase in ducks", "increase in snapping turtles, or "increase in salmon/lake trout" would all be acceptable responses, so this response receives credit. The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*less food for small fish which will create less small fish*). Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms would be either an increase or a reduction in population or food. As there could be less small fish (because there are more ducks eating plankton, the same food small fish eat), this response is correct. Note: This student also provides even further effects (*less food for the Herring Gull, the Eagles, and the salmon and lake trout...*), which are not necessary for credit.

**Anchor Paper 3 – Score Point 3**

3 points This would have an immediate affect on the number of salmon and trout, and snapping turtles in the Great Lakes ecosystem. The number of these animals would greatly increase. There would now be more snapping turtles to eat small fish and there would be more salmon and trout for the eagle to eat,

3

**Anchor Paper 3  
Score Point 3**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*salmon and trout, and snapping turtles*). As acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon/Lake Trout, this response receives credit for either Salmon/Lake Trout or Snapping Turtles. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*The number of these animals would greatly increase*). "Increase in ducks", "increase in snapping turtles, or "increase in salmon/lake trout" would all be acceptable responses, so this response receives credit. The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*there would be more salmon and trout for the eagle to eat*). Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms would be either an increase or a reduction in population or food. As the eagle eats salmon/lake trout, and there would now be more of them for the eagle to eat, this response is correct.

**Anchor Paper 4 – Score Point 3**

3 points One organism this would have an immediate effect on would be the salmon and lake trout

The effect would be that humans prey on them and the absence of the humans would be an increase in population

This would effect the small fish because the salmon would eat too many of them because of the increased population

**Anchor Paper 4  
Score Point 3**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*the salmon and lake trout*). Acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon/Trout, so this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*increase in population*), referring to salmon, as there are no humans to prey on them anymore. "Increase in ducks", "increase in snapping turtles, or "increase in salmon" would all be acceptable responses, so this response receives credit. The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*This would effect the small fish because the salmon would eat too many of them*). Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms would be either an increase or a reduction in population or food. "Salmon eating too many of them" implies there will be fewer small fish (because of increased population in salmon that eat them), so this response is acceptable.

**Anchor Paper 5 – Score Point 3**

3 points

It would have an immediate effect on the snapping turtle. Since humans are the only thing that preys on snapping turtles, with us gone they would be at the top of the food chain with the eagles.

This effect could affect the eagles because if there are more turtles then there is more competition for small fish.

**Anchor Paper 5  
Score Point 3**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*the snapping turtle*). Acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon/Lake Trout, so this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*they would be at the top of the food chain with the eagles*), implying that nothing would eat them now. "They would be the top of the food chain" is an acceptable effect or change for the snapping turtle (or duck), as they previously were not at the top of the food chain when humans were a part of the ecosystem. The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*this effect could affect the eagles...more competition for small fish*). Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms would be either an increase or a reduction in population or food. As there are now more turtles, more turtles would be eating small fish along with the eagles (implying there would be fewer small fish), so this response is acceptable.



**Anchor Paper 6 – Score Point 3**

3 points This would affect the Salmon and the lake trout. It would effect them by their Population getting too big. If it got too big they would eat more of the little fish. The little fish Population would keep decreasing untill the extinct. Then if that happend invertibrates and almost all other organism population would get out of hand and it would be a huge mess.

**Anchor Paper 6  
Score Point 3**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*salmon and the lake trout*). As acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon/Lake Trout, this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*their population getting too big*), meaning their population would increase. "Increase in ducks", "increase in snapping turtles, or "increase in salmon/lake trout" would all be acceptable responses, so this response receives credit. The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*little fish population would keep decreasing*), as there are now more salmon/lake trout "eating more of the little fish" (small fish). Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms would be either an increase or a reduction in population or food, so this response is acceptable. Note: The student's further use of "superlatives" (*if that happend invertibrates...almost all other organism population would get out of had and it would be a huge mess*) is ignored.

**Anchor Paper 7 – Score Point 3**

3 points Imagine humans being wiped away entirely from the Great Lakes ecosystem? The snapping turtles would get out of control. Since we are the only predators to snapping turtles, there would be nothing to kill them and their population would just keep growing and growing? This could affect another organism, small fish. Small fish are all snapping turtles eat. If there were too many turtles they would have to eat more small fish. Then the small fish population would go down considerably.

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**Anchor Paper 7  
Score Point 3**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*the snapping turtles*). As acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon/Lake Trout, this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*their population would just keep growing*), as humans are their only predator and there would be nothing to kill them. "Increase in ducks", "increase in snapping turtles, or "increase in salmon/lake trout" would all be acceptable responses, so this response receives credit. The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*the small fish population would go down considerably*), as there are more ("too many") turtles eating more small fish. Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms would be either an increase or a reduction in population or food, so this response is acceptable.

**Anchor Paper 8 – Score Point 3**

3 points

The snapping turtle would have an immediate effect because then nothing would eat it. There will be less small fish because there are more and more turtles effecting everything that eats the small fish.

**Anchor Paper 8  
Score Point 3**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*The snapping turtle*). "Snapping Turtles" is acceptable, so this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*there are more and more turtles*). "Increase in ducks", "increase in snapping turtles, or "increase in salmon/lake trout" would all be acceptable responses, so this response receives credit. (Note: "Then nothing would eat it" could also stand alone as a correct response for Part 2, as it states an effect or change (like "top of the food chain") now that humans are gone). The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*there will be less small fish*), as there are more turtles eating more small fish. Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms would be either an increase or a reduction in population or food, so this response is acceptable.

Note: Parts 2 and 3 do not need to be in order to receive credit. Order is important only for the immediate organism (Part 1), which must be identified first.

**Anchor Paper 9 – Score Point 3**

3 points • Duck

- there would be an increase in the Duck Population
- There would be less plankton therefore there would probably be a decrease on other food sources as well

3

**Anchor Paper 9  
Score Point 3**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*Duck*). As acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon/Lake Trout, this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*there would be an increase in the Duck Population*). "Increase in ducks", "increase in snapping turtles, or "increase in salmon/lake trout" would all be acceptable responses, so this response receives credit. The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*there would be less plankton*). Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms would be either an increase or a reduction in population or food. There would be less plankton as there are now more ducks that eat plankton, so this response is acceptable.

**Anchor Paper 10 – Score Point 3**

3 points

If humans were removed, the duck population will boom! Because the humans are their predator and if they're gone they can't hunt them. But the effect would be the plankton go down and also the vegetation.

**Anchor Paper 10  
Score Point 3**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*the duck population*). As acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon/Lake Trout, this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*duck population will boom...they can't hunt them*), "population will boom" referring to an increase in population. "Increase in ducks", "increase in snapping turtles, or "increase in salmon/lake trout" would all be acceptable responses, so this response receives credit. (Note: "They can't hunt them" could also stand alone as a correct response for Part 2, as it states an effect or change now that humans are gone and implies that if they can't be hunted their numbers would increase). The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*the plankton go down and also the vegetation*). Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms would be either an increase or a reduction in population or food. There would be less plankton and vegetation as there are now more ducks that eat plankton and vegetation, so this response is acceptable.

**Anchor Paper 11 – Score Point 3**

3 points

If human beings were removed entirely from the Great Lakes ecosystem then it would have an immediate affect on Salmon and lake trout, there would be more because if eagles were the only thing eating them then there would be more, and if there were more Salmon and lake trout it would mean there would be less small fish to eat and eventually the small fish would run out and the salmon and trout and the Herring gull would all starve because that's what they eat.

**Anchor Paper 11  
Score Point 3**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*salmon and lake trout*). "Salmon/Lake Trout" is acceptable, so this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*there would be more because if eagles are the only thing eating them then there would be more*). "There would be more" (referring to salmon/lake trout) is an acceptable response, so this response receives credit. The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*less small fish to eat*), as there are more salmon/lake trout that eat small fish decreasing the small fish population. Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms would be either an increase or a reduction in population or food, so this response is acceptable. Note: The student's further use of superlatives (*the herring gull would all starve*) is ignored.

**Anchor Paper 12 – Score Point 3**

3 points • Snapping Turtles

- Human wouldn't eat the turtles anymore, so it wouldn't be prey anymore. Plus there would be more turtles.
- This would affect small fish because more turtles means less small fish.

**Anchor Paper 12  
Score Point 3**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*Snapping Turtles*). "Snapping Turtles" is an acceptable immediate organism, so this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*there would be more turtles*), as humans wouldn't eat turtles anymore. "Increase in snapping turtles" is an acceptable response, so this response receives credit. (Note: "It wouldn't be prey anymore" could also stand alone as a correct response for Part 2. It states an effect or change now that humans are gone and implies that if turtles weren't prey anymore their numbers would increase). The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*more turtles mean less small fish*). This implies there would be less small fish as there are now more turtles that eat small fish. Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms would be either an increase or a reduction in population or food, so this response is acceptable.

**Anchor Paper 13 – Score Point 3**

3 points *It would have an immediate effect on the snapping turtles? because then it would be one of the main predators. Then the snapping turtles would drive the fish out resulting in an over-population of plankton.*

**Anchor Paper 13  
Score Point 3**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*snapping turtles*). “Snapping Turtles” is an acceptable immediate organism, so this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*then it would be one of the main predators*). “It would be one of the main predators” is an acceptable effect or change on the snapping turtle, as turtles previously were not one of the main predators (or “top of the food chain”) when humans were a part of the ecosystem. The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*would drive the fish out resulting in an over-population of plankton*), “drive fish out” implying “eat” the fish. There are now more snapping turtles and turtles eat small fish, so this response implies there will be a reduction in small fish. It also states there will be an overpopulation of plankton. This could happen as small fish eat plankton and there will be less of them to eat the plankton. Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms can be either an increase or a reduction in population or food, so this response is acceptable.

Important note: “Fish” alone (without specifically designating which type of fish, salmon or small fish) is never acceptable for the immediate organism in Part 1. “Fish” alone in Part 3 of this response is acceptable as it links “fish” to overpopulation of plankton. This clearly indicates the student could only be referring to small fish, not salmon. If the student clarifies which type of fish it is in the response, “fish” is acceptable.



**Anchor Paper 14 – Score Point 2**

3 points Salmon and lake trout would be affected because they would over populate and then every that the Salmon and lake trout ate would die out and then the Salmon and lake trout who die out

**Anchor Paper 14  
Score Point 2**

The student correctly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*salmon and lake trout*). “Salmon” is acceptable, so this response receives credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*they would overpopulate*), referring to an increase in salmon. “Increase in salmon” is an acceptable response, so this response receives credit. The student incorrectly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*then every that the Salmon and lake trout ate would die out...*). Although this response does address a reduction in population, “everything that the salmon and lake trout ate” is not specific enough to identify the secondary organism or group of organisms that would be affected (what would die out?).

**Anchor Paper 15 – Score Point 2**

3 points If humans were removed entirely from the Great Lakes Ecosystem one organism in the food web that it would have an immediate effect on would be the eagle. The eagle would be alone at the top of that change creating a huge increase of eagles. Then the population of salmon and smaller fish would decrease and might become extinct.

**Anchor Paper 15  
Score Point 2**

The student incorrectly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*the eagle*). As acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon, “eagle” does not receive credit. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*The eagle would be alone at the top of that change creating a huge increase of eagles*). As there could be an increase in the population of eagles due to an increase in their food supply (more salmon as humans aren’t eating them anymore), this is a true statement and an acceptable response. (Note: “The eagle would be alone at the top of the food chain” alone, without stating there would be an increase in eagle population would not be acceptable. Eagles are already at the top of the food chain with humans; there would be no effect, or change if humans were removed from the food web. Contrast to Anchor Paper 5. The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*Then the population of smaller fish would decrease*). Per the Rubric, an acceptable effect on this secondary organism or group of organisms could be an increase or a reduction in population. As there would be more eagles that eat small fish, there would be a reduction in population of small fish, so this response is acceptable.

## Anchor Paper 16 – Score Point 2

3 points

If humans were removed from the Great Lakes ecosystem it would have an effect on Eagles by making more fish available for the eagle to eat.


It would effect small fish by making less of them because the salmon would eat all of them because there would be more salmon.

### Anchor Paper 16 Score Point 2

The student incorrectly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*eagles*). As acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon, “eagle” does not receive credit. (Note: Order is important for the immediate organism. The immediate organism must be identified first. Although a correct immediate organism is stated later in Part 3 (“there would be more salmon”), it is not acceptable to give credit to a correct immediate organism if it appears later in the response). The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*making more fish available for the eagle to eat*). “Fish” alone does not tell us which type of fish would increase and be available for the eagle to eat (it matters, as salmon would increase and small fish would decrease). This response, however, does clarify which type of fish is being referred to later in Part 3 (*there would be more salmon*). If humans were taken out of the food web, salmon would increase in population. Since eagles eat salmon, it would be a true statement that there would be “more fish” (salmon) for the eagle to eat. As this is a true statement, and from Part 3 it is clear which type of fish the response is referring to, this response is given credit. The student correctly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*It would effect small fish by making less of them*), because there would be more salmon and the salmon would eat all of them.

Important note: “Fish” alone (without specifically designating which type of fish, salmon or small fish) is never acceptable for the immediate organism in Part 1. “Fish” alone in Part 2 of this response is acceptable because which type of fish it is is clarified in Part 3 of the response. Part 3 clearly indicates the student is referring to salmon, not small fish. Compare to Anchor Paper 13.

**Anchor Paper 17 – Score Point 1**

	3 points	• fish.
		• There would be a lot more of them.
		• The eagles would have to increase to keep the fish population down.

**Anchor Paper 17  
Score Point 1**

The student incorrectly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*fish*). “Fish” alone (without specifically stating which type of fish, salmon) is never acceptable for the immediate organism in Part 1. The student correctly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*There would be a lot more of them*). “There would be a lot more of them (fish)” does not state which type of fish would increase, however it would be a true statement to say that if humans were taken out of the food web, one of the types of fish, salmon, would increase in population. This response is given credit because even though it does not state which type of fish is being referred to, this would be a true statement for salmon and no statement follows that contradicts that statement. The student incorrectly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*eagles would have to increase to keep the fish population down*). This response does not appropriately address how secondary organisms or groups of organisms would be affected by an increase in salmon population.

Important note: “Fish” alone (without specifically designating which type of fish, salmon or small fish) is never acceptable for the immediate organism in Part 1. “Fish” alone in Part 2 of this response is acceptable because the statement is true for one type of fish (salmon) and no statement follows that contradicts that statement.

## Anchor Paper 18 – Score Point 0

3 points IF humans were ever removed, the fish would have an immediate effect. The number of fish would go up. There would be more food for eagles.

D21

Anchor Paper 18  
Score Point 0

The student incorrectly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*fish*). “Fish” alone (without specifically stating which type of fish, salmon) is never acceptable for the immediate organism in Part 1. The student incorrectly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*number of fish would go up*). “Number of fish would go up” does not state which type of fish would increase, salmon or small fish. If humans were removed from the food web, salmon population would increase; however small fish population would decrease. This is not a true statement for both types of fish and the type of fish being referred to is not clarified further in the response. The student incorrectly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*there would be more food for eagles*). This response does not clarify which type of fish would increase and therefore provide more food for the eagles. As salmon would increase, they would provide more food for the eagles; however as small fish would decrease, small fish would not provide more food for the eagles. This response is not a true statement for both types of fish. As responses for Parts 2 and 3 are not true statements for both types of fish and neither statement clarifies the type of fish being referred to, no credit is given for either point.

Important note: “Fish” alone (without specifically designating which type of fish, salmon or small fish) is never acceptable for the immediate organism in Part 1. “Fish” alone in Parts 2 and 3 of this response are not acceptable because the statements are not true for both types of fish and do not clarify which type of fish is being referred to. Contrast to Anchor Papers 13 and 16.

**Anchor Paper 19 – Score Point 0**

3 points

The Eagle

Because us & the eagle are at the top,  
& if we leave, the eagle would have the  
top to itself.

It would also affect organisms at the  
bottom because it could end up being eaten  
by something else or not being eaten at  
all.

**Anchor Paper 19  
Score Point 0**

The student incorrectly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*eagle*). As acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon, “eagle” as the immediate organism does not receive credit. The student incorrectly describes the effect on this immediate organism (*if we leave the eagle would have the top to itself*). “The eagle would have the top to itself” alone, without stating there would be an increase in eagle population is not acceptable. Eagles were already at the top of the food chain with humans; there would be no effect, or change if humans were removed. Contrast to Anchor Papers 15 and 5. The student incorrectly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*It would also affect organisms at the bottom because it could end up being eaten by something else or not being eaten at all*). “Organisms at the bottom” is not specific enough to identify the secondary organism or group of organisms that would be affected (what would be eaten or not eaten?), and does not receive credit.

**Anchor Paper 20 – Score Point 0**

3 points If human beings were removed entirely from the Great Lakes ecosystem one organism in the food web would have an immediate effect on is Eagle. It would effect the Eagle because it eats basically the same things as human beings. This effect could affect other organisms because the population on some of the organisms would grow way out of proportion.

**Anchor Paper 20  
Score Point 0**

The student incorrectly identifies an organism that will be immediately affected by the removal of humans from the food chain (*Eagle*). As acceptable immediate organisms are Ducks, Snapping Turtles, and Salmon, “eagle” as the immediate organism does not receive credit. The student inadequately describes the effect on this immediate organism (*it eats basically the same things as human beings*). This response is too vague. It does not go far enough to state that as the eagle eats the same things as humans, when humans are removed the eagle’s food source would increase. The student incorrectly explains how this effect could affect another organism or group of organisms (*the population on some of the organisms would grow way out of proportion*). “Some organisms” is not specific enough to identify the secondary organism or group of organisms from the food web that would be affected (what would grow way out of proportion?), and does not receive credit. Compare Anchor Papers 14 and 19.